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FOR FURTHER TRAN

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DEWAR CALORIMETRY TECHNIQUE FOR DETERMINING SPECIFIC ABSORBED POWER OF RODENTS IN RADIOFREQUENCY FIELDS



William D. Hurt, M.S.



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USAF SCHOOL OF AEROSPACE MEDICINE Aerospace Medical Division (AFSC) Brooks Air Force Base, Texas 78235



NOTICES

This interim report was submitted by personnel of the Radiation Physics Branch, Radiation Sciences Division, USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, Aerospace Medical Division, AFSC, Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, under job order 7757-01-43.

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The animals involved in this study were procured, maintained, and used in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act of 1970 and the "Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals" prepared by the Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources - National Research Council.

This report has been reviewed by the Information Office (OI) and is releasable to the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). At NTIS, it will be available to the general public, including foreign nations.

This technical report has been reviewed and is approved for publication.

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	A Dewar calorimeter system has been built and demonstrated to be a practical instrument for determining the absorbed power of rodents exposed to radio-							
	frequency fields. Some of the potential pitfalls of this technique have been							
	pointed out and solutions are presented in this paper.							
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DEWAR CALORIMETRY TECHNIQUE FOR DETERMINING SPECIFIC ABSORBED POWER OF RODENTS IN RADIOFREQUENCY FIELDS

INTRODUCTION

Researchers studying biological effects of radiofrequency radiation (RFR) fields often limit the dosimetry to a description of the equipment used and a measured or calculated value for the incident power density. This provides conditions that other investigators could reproduce; however, comparison of dissimilar exposure conditions is not possible unless absorption measurements are also made or theoretically determined. Johnson (1) described the rationale for including this information. Thus, there is general recognition that any description of exposures should include values for the average energy absorbed by a sample configuration. The average energy absorbed by a sample can most easing be calculated from the average temperature of the sample immediately before and after exposure.

This paper describes a method for measuring absorbed energy using a Dewar calorimeter. The method is simple and inexpensive and can be used with many types of samples including whole animals.

MATERIALS

Measuring Equipment

The main component of the Dewar calorimeter was a vacuum flask containing a measured amount of water. The flask was insulated on the bottom and sides with approximately 3 cm of echo foam and sealed with a styrofoam stopper to minimize heat exchange with the environment (Figure 1). The temperature of the water was measured with a thermistor device calibrated by a Precision Data digital multimeter model 3500, Monator Labs scanner model 1200, and Hewlett Packard model 9830 programmable calculator (Figure 2). The program for collecting and analyzing the data was capable of monitoring 6 thermistors simultaneously and was written in BASIC (Appendix A).

^{1.} Johnson, C. C. Recommendations for specifying electromagnetic wave irradiation conditions in bioeffects research. J Microwave Power 10:249-250 (1975).



Figure 1. Vacuum flask and thermistor.

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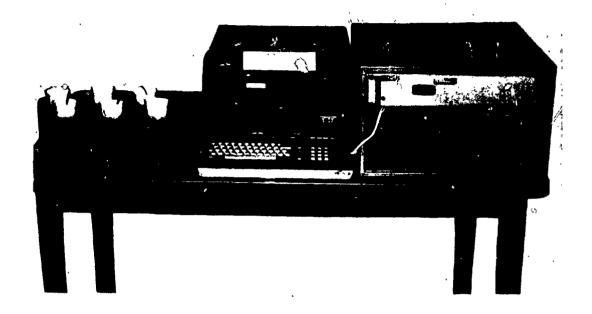


Figure 2. Vacuum flasks, thermistors, programmable calculator, scanner, and multimeter.

RFR Exposure System

Rodents were exposed to 2.6 GHz fields in the far field of a Struthers Electronics Corporation model 110S horn in an anechoic chamber using a Cober generator. An NBS EDM-1B 3-orthogonal dipole probe was used to determine free-field power density at the 18 exposure positions of the animal holder (Figure 3).

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

A simple mathematical relationship was used to calculate the thermal dose from RFR exposure using the initial and final average temperatures of the sample. The average energy absorbed by a sample, E, was computed from the average temperature of the sample immediately

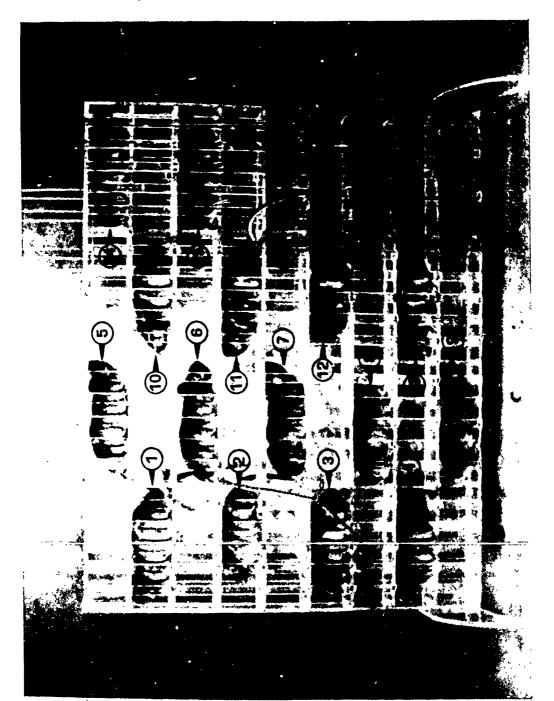


Figure 3. Animal holder.

before, T_b, and after, T_e, the exposure, and the composite specific heat, C, and the mass, M, of the sample. The relationship is:

$$E = MC(T_e - T_b) \tag{1}$$

The average rate of energy absorption can be calculated from E by dividing by the duration of exposure, as long as the temperature change is linearly proportional to the exposure time. Possible artifacts, caused by heat losses as a function of temperature, can be ignored if the temperatures involved remain near $(\pm 4 \text{ C}^{\circ})$ ambient. This assumption was confirmed by experimentally determining heat loss rates in mice.

Dewar Calorimeter System

The average temperature of a sample can be measured by Dewar calorimetry. Once the sample is added to the calorimeter, the net energy of the calorimeter system is not changed. The energy change in the sample is exactly balanced by the energy change in the calorimeter. Using equation 1, this energy exchange relationship can be described by:

$$M_s C_s (T_e - T_f) = (Z_d + M_l C_l) (T_f - T_i)$$
 (2)

where the mass and specific heat of the sample are denoted by $M_{\rm S}$ and $C_{\rm S}$; and the liquid medium used in the Dewar Flask by $M_{\rm I}$ and $C_{\rm I}$. $Z_{\rm d}$ is the heat capacity of the Dewar flask. $T_{\rm i}$ denotes the temperature of the calorimeter system just before the sample is added, and $T_{\rm f}$ denotes the temperature just after equilibrium is reached. $T_{\rm e}$ represents the average temperature of the sample immediately after exposure to the radiation.

The parameters in equation 2 were obtained in the following manner: Calorimeter temperatures were measured directly, as were the masses of the various components. Heat capacity of the Dewar flasks (Z_d) was determined when the flasks were filled with 140 ml of distilled water, closely approximating the combination water-animal weight normally used in this study, and was computed from the temperature changes observed when a small 1000-ohm resistor with 25 volts applied across it was submerged in the water for 30 minutes. The specific heat used for water and mice was 1.0 and 0.824 cal/ C^0 /gm respectively (2).

^{2.} Hart, J. S. Calorimetric determination of average body temperature of small mammals and its variation with environmental conditions. Can J Zool 29:224-233 (1951).

Absorbed RFR Energy by Mice

To determine the average absorbed energy for mice, the animals were euthanized (by rapid cervical extension) on the day before exposure. thus providing adequate time for the carcasses to equilibrate to ambient conditions by the time of the test. On the day of the experiment, water at approximately 2 Co below ambient temperature was weighed out (~100 g) and placed in the calorimeters. While the calorimeters attained temperature equilibrium, the weights of the mice were taken. The 5 carcasses to be exposed were placed in the exposure cage with the remaining 13 positions being occupied by live mice to simulate the actual exposure geometry. A sixth carcass, the control, was placed in the anechoic chamber out of the radiation field. The animal array was placed 150 cm from the front edge of the horn and exposed to a 2.6-GHz field with the transmitter held at a constant output of 280 watts continuous wave (cw). Immediately following a 10-minute exposure, T; for each calorimeter was obtained and a dead mouse was placed in each calorimeter. Temperatures were recorded every 5 minutes until the calorimeter temperatures stabilized within 0.01 Co, usually about 1 hour. This final temperature, T_f , was used with T_i , M_s , C_s , M_l , and C_l , and Z_d in equation 2 to evaluate Te for each carcass. The Te for the control animal was taken as the average temperature before irradiation of each of the exposed animals.

RESULTS

Several techniques were used in an attempt to determine the heat capacity of the calorimeters: One was to pour approximately 40 ml of water into a calorimeter which had already come to thermal equilibrium with ~100 g of water; another technique was to pour about 140 ml of water into an empty calorimeter. However, the water cooled during the pouring process; thereby inducing uncertainties in the actual temperature of the water added to the calorimeter. This difficulty was solved by inducing a known amount of energy via the I^2R drop in a resistor submerged in approximately 140 ml of distilled water for a period of 30 minutes. The measurements indicated that the heat capacity of the calorimeters was 6.4 ± 3.7 cal/ C^0 . Table 1 shows the results of the field measurements made in the empty animal container.

Up to three specific absorbed power determinations were made for each of the 18 positions used in the animal container. Results of free field measurements indicate that mice exposed to 2.6 GHz absorb 1.15 W/kg per mW/cm². This factor, applied to the specific absorbed power data, allows a comparison of free field measurements with effective

TABLE 1. RESULTS OF FREE FIELD AND ABSORBED POWER MEASUREMENTS

		Specific absorbed	Effective power
Holder	Empty holder (mW/cm ²)	power	determinations (mW/cm ²)
position No.	(mw/em-)	(W/kg)	(mw/cm)
,	1.1	22	10
1	11	22	19
2	14	23	20
3	14	23	20
4	10	16	14
5	12	14	12
6	14	28	24
7	12	22	19
8	14	23	20
9	10	17	14
10	12	19	17
11	14	22	19
12	14	25	22
13	11	14	12
14	11	19	17
15	13	24	21
16	15	20	17
17	14	22	19
18	12	15	13

power density values (Table 1). The average of the 7 inner readings (6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, and 13) for free field was only 5% higher than the average of the 11 periphery readings. However, for the specific absorbed power measurements, the 7 inner readings were 12% higher than those on the periphery, probably due to the increase in field resulting from more predominant scatter toward the center than on the edges.

These measurements demonstrate the usefulness of the Dewar calorimetry technique in determining absorbed power from microwave fields. The basic system provides a relatively inexpensive method for determination of the absorbed power in rodents.

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APPENDIX A

SPECIFIC ABSORBED POWER PROGRAM

```
.40 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0.0001879,0.0009457,0.0001879,0.0010902,0.0010511,0.0010318
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       Specify initial water
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            temperature routine
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          PRINT ''W1="W[1];"W2="W[2];"W3="W[3];"W4="W[4];"W5="W[5];"W6="W[6]
                                                                                                                                                                                                     100 DATA 1,1,1,1,1,1,-0.1847,-0.4087,-0.1849,-0.4402,-0.432,-0.4281
10 REM POWER ABSORPTION DETERMINATION VIA CALOKIMETRIC TECHNIQUE
20 DIM I[12],S[12],C[12],T[12],W[12]
30 FOR C=1 TO 12
40 READ I[C]
50 NEXT C
60 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,56.1804,55.635,56.1736,56.2197,56.1699,55.9409
70 FOR D=1 TO 12
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  "INITIAL WATER TEMPERATURE IN DEGREES CENTIGRADE"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             200 PRINT "ENTER 2 TO MAKE TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENTS"
210 PRINT "CONT 1020 TO ANALYZE DATA"
220 PRINT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          PRINT "ENTER 1 TO CALIBRATE THERMISTOR"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              280 INPUT W[1],W[2],W[3],W[4],W[5],W[6]
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         250 DISP "PUT WATER IN CALORIMETER" 260 STOP
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       PRINT "WATER WEIGHTS IN GRAMS";
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       IF A1=1 THEN 770
                                                                                                                                                                                                                         110 FOR F=1 TO 12
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   180 M[3]=-100000
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              .70 M[7]=-1000
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       160 M[5]=-100
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         900
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              L20 READ C[F]
                                                                                                                                                     80 READ S[D]
90 NEXT D
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 150 M[6]=-10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                230 INPUT A1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    130 NEXT F
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       PRINT
GOSUB
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  PRINT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     PRINT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             310 PRINT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         330 A5=6
340 PRINT
350 PRINT
360 GOSUB
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        A2 = 0
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         190
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     240
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    270
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  290
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       300
```

Range constants for DVM

calibration curve values

Thermis-or

Calorimetry routine

9

Calorimetry -routine

```
Five-minute delay between
                                                                                                                                                                                             water-mouse temperature
             PRINT !WATER-MOUSE TEMPERATURE IN DEGREES CENTIGRADE AT 5 MIN. INTERVALS"
                                                                                                                                                                                                         readings
                                                               FORMAT 3X, "T1", 5X, "T2", 5X, "T3", 5X, "T4", 5X, "T5", 5X, "T6"
                                                                                                    WRITE (15,630)T[7],T[8],T[9],T[10],T[11],T[12]
                                     WRITE (15,580)
                                                                                                                              FORMAT 6F7.2
                                                                                        GOSUB 900
                                                                             A3=30000
                                                                                                                                           WAIT A3
                                                                                                                                                      WAIT A3
                                                                                                                                                                                            680 WAIT A3
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  710 WAIT A3
                         PRINT
                                                  570 PRINT
                                                                                                                  PRIN'
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     GOTO
 A2=6
                                                                                                                                                                   WAIT
                                                                                                                                                                                                         WAIT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                     700 WAIT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               720 WAIT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           730 WAIT
                                                                                                                                                                                  WAIT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         WAIT
             540
530
                                     260
                                                                           590
                                                                                                                620
                                                                                                                              630
                                                                                                                                           640
                                                                                                                                                       650
                                                                                                                                                                   099
                                                                                                                                                                                029
                                                                                                                                                                                                         069
                        550
                                                                                         909
                                                                                                     610
```

510 PRINT 'M1='W[7];'M2='W[8];'M3='W[9];'M4='W[10];'M5='W[11];'M6='W[12]

PRINT 'MICE WEIGHTS IN GRAMS"; INPUT W[7],W[8],W[9],W[10],W[11],W[12]

PRINT

200

520 PRINT

FORMAT "T1=",F7.2,3X,"T2=",F7.2,3X,"T3=",F7.2,3X FORMAT "T4=",F7.2,3X,"T5=",F7.2,3X,"T6=",F7.2

(15,390)T[1],T[2],T[3];

370 WRITE

APPENDIX A (CONTINUED)

WRITE (15,400)T[4],T[5],T[6]

DISP "LENGTH OF EXPOSURE IN HOURS =";

INPUT A4

430 440 450 460

420

PRINT

410

400

PRINT

PRINT

STOP

470

480

"LENGTH OF EXPOSURE ="A4"HRS"

DISP "PLACE MYCE IN CALORIMETER"

Specify water-mouse temperature routine

10

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```
Test DVM readings
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           Data analysis
routine
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       for stability
                                                                                                                          calibration
                                                                                                           Thermistor
                                                                                                                                               routine
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      030 U[M]=((T[M+6]-T[M])*(W[M]+6.4)+T[M+6]*W[M+6]*0.824)/(W[M+6]*0.824)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    > Connect various thermistors to DVM
                                        Specify thermistor calibration routine
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              O60 PRINT "INITIAL MOUSE TEMPERATURE IN DEGREES CENTIGRADE"
                                                                                                                          FORMAT 22X, "R1", 6X, "R2", 6X, "R3", 6X, "R4", 6X, "R5", 6X, "R6"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         B2=I[N+A5]+S[N+A5]*B*M[A]+C[N+A5]*(B*M[A])^2
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  B1=I[N+A5]+S[N+A5]*B*M[A]+C[N+A5]*(B*M[A])+2
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      WRITE (15,880)T[1],T[2],T[3],T[4],T[5],T[6]
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          970 IF ABS((B2-B1)/B2) < 0.001 THEN 990
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 1080 WRITE (15,390)U[1],U[2],U[3],
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                1090 WRITE (15,400)U[4],U[5],U[6]
                                                                     780 PRINT "THERMISTOR READINGS"
                                                                                                                                                                                                   PRINT "TEMPERATURE ="A6"C"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            WRITE (1,*)WBYTE65-1.8*N
                                                                                                                                                               DISP "TEMPERATURE =";
APPENDIX A (CONTINUED)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           FORMAT 18X,6F8.2
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       ENTER (4,*)A,B
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ENTER (4,*)A,B
                                                                                                           WRITE (15,810)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      .020 FOR M=1 TO 6
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             FOR N=1 TO 6
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               390 T[A2+N]=B2
                                                                                                                                                                                                                      GOSUB 900
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     WAIT 100
                                                                                                                                                                                  INPUT A6
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            GOTO 820
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                380 GOTO 920
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         .040 NEXT M
                                                       A2=A5=0
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 .000 NEXT N
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      010 RETURN
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           .050 PRINT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  LO70 PRINT
                                                                                          PRINT
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           390
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Data analysis routine

1160 WRITE (15,1170)U[2];U[3],U[4],U[5],U[6] 1170 FORMAT 'P2=",F7.3,3X,"P3=",F7.3,3X,"P4=",F7.3,3X,"P5=",F7.3,3X,"P6=",F7.3 1180 PRINT 1190 END 1150 PRINT

1140 PRINT "SPECIFIC ABSORBED POWER IN WATTS PER KILOGRAM"

1100 FOR E-2 TO 6 1110 U[E]=(U[E]-U[1])*1.1628/A4

1120 NEXT E 1130 PRINT

APPENDIX A (CONTINUED)